

CLAIMS

1. A security system comprising:

a flexible cord having a length;

a housing mountable in an operative position to a support and into which the cord is urged into a stored state and from which the cord can be selectively withdrawn; and

a connector on the cable,

the connector attachable to an article to be monitored,

at least one of a) a first discrete part of the cord being repositionable relative to a second discrete part of the cord and b) at least a part of the housing being repositionable relative to a support upon which the housing is mounted in an operative position to control twisting of the cord about the length of the cord by reason of turning of the connector.

2. The security system according to claim 1 wherein the first discrete

part of the cord has a first connector assembly and the second discrete part of the cord has a second connector assembly, and at least a part of the first connector assembly is movable guidingly relative to at least a part of the second connector assembly.

3. The security system according to claim 2 wherein the cord comprises
2 at least a first conductive element, the first connector assembly has a first
connector element, the second connector assembly has a second connector
4 element, and the first and second connector assemblies define a conductive path
for the at least first conductive element between the first and second discrete cord
6 parts.

4. The security system according to claim 3 wherein the first connector
2 element is movable guidingly relative to the second connector element around an
axis.

5. The security system according to claim 3 wherein the first connector
2 element is movable against the second connector element as the at least part of
the first connector assembly is moved guidingly relative to the at least part of the
4 second connector assembly.

6. The security system according to claim 4 wherein the first connector
2 element is movable against the second connector element as the at least part of

the first connector assembly is moved guidingly relative to the at least part of the
4 second connector assembly.

7. The security system according to claim 4 wherein the first connector
2 element comprises an arcuate conductor and the second connector element
comprises at least a first conductive arm which contacts the arcuate conductor.

8. The security system according to claim 7 wherein the first conductive
2 arm comprises a plurality of discrete fingers which contact the arcuate conductor.

9. The security system according to claim 7 wherein the second
2 connector element comprises a second arm which contacts the arcuate conductor,
the first and second arms contacting the arcuate conductor at spaced locations.

10. The security system according to claim 3 further in combination with
2 an alarm assembly capable of generating a detectable signal in the event that the
conductive path is interrupted.

11. The security system according to claim 1 further in combination with
2 an article to which the connector is attached.

2 12. The security system according to claim 10 wherein the connector has
an armed state when attached to an article to be monitored and an alarm state
with the connector detached from an article to be monitored, and the alarm system
4 generates the detectable signal as an incident of the connector being detached
and changing from the armed state into the alarm state.

2 13. The security system according to claim 1 further in combination with
a support to which the housing is mounted in the operative position.

2 14. The security system according to claim 13 further comprising a layer
associated with the support and having first and second opposite sides, the
housing is on the first side of the layer, and the cord extends through the layer so
4 that the connector is on the second side of the layer.

2 15. The security system according to claim 13 wherein the security
system comprises a bearing assembly which acts between the housing and the
support to guide repositioning of the housing relative to the support.

2 16. The security system according to claim 15 wherein the bearing
assembly comprises a first bearing portion that moves as one piece with the
housing, a second bearing portion on the support and a plurality of bearing
4 elements that act between the first and second bearing portions.

2 17. The security system according to claim 16 wherein each of the
plurality of bearing elements comprises a roller element.

2 18. The security system according to claim 16 wherein each of the roller
elements comprises a sphere.

2 19. The security system according to claim 16 wherein the security
system comprises a support bracket to which the housing is mounted so that the
support bracket moves as one piece with the housing.

2 20. The security system according to claim 17 wherein the first and
second bearing portions comprise a non-metal material and the plurality of bearing
elements comprise a metal material.

21. The security system according to claim 4 wherein the first connector
2 element is movable guidingly relative to the second connector element
continuously in one direction around the axis without causing kinking of the cord.

22. A security system comprising:
2 a flexible cord having a length;
a housing into which the cord is urged into a stored state and from which
4 the cord can be selectively withdrawn;
a support to which the housing is mounted in an operative position; and
6 an article to which the cord is attached,
the flexible cord, housing, and support being interconnected so that the cord
8 can be turned about the length of the cord continuously in one direction without
causing kinking of the cord.

23. The security system according to claim 22 wherein the flexible cord
2 has first and second discrete parts, the first discrete part of the cord has a first
connector assembly, the second discrete part of the cord has a second connector
4 assembly, and at least a part of the first connector assembly is movable guidingly
relative to at least a part of the second connector assembly.

24. The security system according to claim 23 wherein the cord
2 comprises at least a first conductive element, the first connector assembly has a
first connector element, the second connector assembly has a second connector
4 element, and the first and second connector assemblies define a conductive path
for the at least first conductive element between the first and second discrete cord
6 parts.

25. The security system according to claim 24 wherein the first connector
2 element is movable guidingly relative to the second connector element around an
axis.

26. The security system according to claim 24 further in combination with
2 an alarm assembly capable of generating a detectable signal in the event that the
conductive path is interrupted.

27. The security system according to claim 22 further comprising a layer
2 associated with the support and having first and second opposite sides, the
housing is on the first side of the layer, and the cord extends through the layer so
4 that the connector is on the second side of the layer.

28. The security system according to claim 22 wherein the security
2 system comprises a bearing assembly which acts between the housing and the
support to guide repositioning of the housing relative to the support.

29. The security system according to claim 28 wherein the bearing
2 assembly comprises a first bearing portion that moves as one piece with the
housing, a second bearing portion on the support, and a plurality of bearing
4 elements that act between the first and second bearing portions.